American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O Fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint
"Agricolas." . . . . *Virg.*

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ADDRESS

Delivered before the Agricultural Society of New Castle County, Del., at the Annual Meeting, September 14th, 1843,

By William Darlington, M. D.

[*Published by request of the Society.*]

Mr. President, and Gentlemen:

I appear before you in compliance with a request, which was so kindly and politely urged, that I could not find it in my heart to decline the invitation, although fully conscious that I am not the person to satisfy the just demands of the occasion, nor to meet the expectations of those by whom I have been thus honored. Incompetent as I felt myself to be, I thought it would ill become one, whose earliest employment was Agriculture, and who has ever been a sincere admirer of that first and noblest of human pursuits, to refuse his co-operation, or churlishly to withhold his mite—however humble, when all around him were generously contributing to the Treasury of useful knowledge. But I am met, at the threshhold, with the embarrassing inquiry,—"What have *I* to communicate to the intelligent Farmers of this district, which can either interest them by its utility, or entertain them by its novelty?" To come *here*, and repeat the trite maxims of practical Agriculture—to undertake to bring before *this Society*, a knowledge of the most approved methods of farming—would not exactly, indeed, be "carrying *coals* to New Castle;" but it would certainly be a preposterous attempt to introduce a commodity, which the *county of New Castle* can at any time furnish to the most accomplished of her sister communities. I shall, therefore not presume to enter upon details, with which every farmer around me is probably better acquainted, than I can pretend to be. Although I come from a district, where the cultivators of the soil do, generally, understand their business, and prosecute it with a commendable ambition,—where the farms are neatly trimmed, and every field in its turn, becomes a luxuriant meadow;—yet, I have not now to learn, that this community is no less distinguished for its zeal in the cause,—and for the practical skill with which the processes of Agriculture are conducted, I should deem it entirely a work of supererogation, to speak to this audience of the various modes of culture—or of the proper management of a farm: to dwell upon the advantages of a rotation of crops,—of selecting the best breeds of domestic animals, and, in order to keep them such, guarding, against the error of overstocking: to urge the value of a judicious application of Lime; or to insist upon the importance of ploughing no more land than can be well manured. There are fundamental principles in Agriculture—abundantly established by experience—and now generally received as such, by all successful farmers.* Under the old system, of excessive cropping, and redundant stock, the abused soil soon demonstrated the error; the labors of the husbandman rather increased, while his animals dwindled, his harvests diminished, and all his possessions deteriorated: But now, it is held as an unquestionable maxim in Agiculture, that the land which is not left in a better condition at the close of a routine of crops, than it was at the commencement, has been injudiciously managed. These important practical truths being well understood, I shall not trespass on your patience by detailing processes, and urging considerations, so familiar to all good farmers. I propose, instead, to invite your attention, for a few moments, to a branch of the Profession which has been hitherto neglected, and undervalued, by many practical men; but which I cannot help regarding both as useful in itself, and as a highly appropriate accomplishment in every intelligent Agriculturist. I mean that department of our science which consists in *an accurate knowledge of the distinctive characters, the economical properties, and a precise nomenclature of those natural objects which immediately interest the cultivator of the soil.* I have, on various occasions, endeavored to impress this view of the subject upon our youthful Farmers,—because I was desirous to see Agriculture assume its just rank in the scale of human pursuits: and I thought I might venture to throw myself upon the indulgence of this society, while I made another effort to pursuade the Farmer, that his business really involves the discipline of *Intellect*, no less than the exertion of *Muscle*;—that it is both his interest, and his duty, to cultivate his *mind* as carefully as he does his *acres*. The Profession of Agriculture, when rightly considered, is, in truth, neither more nor less than *a practical system of Natural Science*. Its operations embrace the most valuable and interesting portions of the three great kingdoms in Nature; he who has acquired the most extensive and accurate knowledge of those kingdoms—and of the laws which govern them,—must necessarily be the best qualified to unfold the blessings, and reap the rewards, which a bountiful Providence thus offers to the skill and industry of Man. I am well aware of the aversion entertained—and very properly entertained—by practical farmers, in relation to what is denominated "*Book-farming*,"—or those merely speculative systems of culture, which are not based upon experience and careful observation. That is not the kind of knowledge which I desire to advocate. I have no faith in *abstractions*—either in agricultural or political science. My trust is in good practical common sense; and I profess to be a decided *Utilitarian*, in all that concerns the every day pursuits of Man in society: But I hold that a correct knowledge of the objects of our care—of the agents with which we have to do, and of the principles which control their operations—is among the *most useful* of our attainments. To be intelligent operatives, we must not only understand what we are about but we should also have just conceptions of the objects about us. It must be obvious, I think, to every reflecting mind, that no one can be a truly enlightened Agriculturist, who is wholly ignorant of the nature, and chemical properties, of the Earths which enter into the composition of the soil,—who knows nothing of those laws of organic life, which affect the well-being of domestic animals, and regulate the developement of those features which give value to particular breeds of stock, or who can wander, contentedly, year after year, among the plants which occupy his land, without attempting to comprehend the characters which distinguish the useful from the worthless, unmindful of the encroachments, and unconscious even of the presence, of the most pernicous intruders. It may be thought, by some, that the knowledge, here implied, is too much to expect from the practical farmer: but I apprehehend this is entirely a mistake—arising from a misconception of the subject, and a proneness to magnify what is not understood. The supposed difficulties, instead of being insurmountable, will be found either to vanish on a nearer view,—or to present topics of lively interest to the inquiring mind, when it comes to grapple with them. Why should the *Agriculturist*, alone, be deemed incapable of investigating the principles involved in his pursuit, or of rightfully comprehending the objects of his peculiar care? It is justly expected of every accomplished Artizan, that he should understand the *philosophy*, of his business—as well as be expert in its manipulations: and I can perceive no good reason why the Agriculturist should not become familiar with all that concerns his noble profession. The means of information are now within the reach of every one. The cheap Literature of the day has furnished us, on the most reasonable terms with all that is known respecting the Geology of Agriculture—the management of stock, and the culture of useful Plants. The recent publications of Liebig, Johnson, and others, present us with the most accurate *scientific* views of the various processes in Husbandry; and the *Farmer's Encyclopoedia* is a real treasury of practical information,—wherein the experence of all ages and countries is carefully *posted up*, to the present day, and admirably arranged for convenient reference. In addition to these, we have the many valuable *Periodicals*, devoted to our profession, in which the experiments and opinions of intelligent contemporaries are regularly spread before us. If any one is inclined to discredit the statements in these works, or thinks he is better informed than the writers, let him show his superior attainments, not by a contemptuous disregard of the views of others, but by exposing their defects, and rectifying their errors. It is in this way that all true knowledge is promoted. Real knowledge, in any department consists of *facts well ascertained, and rightly understood*; or, in other words, in a correct perception of objects, and of the *true Theory*, or explanation, of the phenomena pertaining to them: and it is only to be acquired by persevering efforts. A fact not understood, is of little value to the possessor. It is the *explanation*, belonging to it, which gives it importance. It is idle, therefore, to declare against all *Theory*—in Agriculture, or in any other pursuit: for Theory is but the exposition of causes in operation—the *mere interpretation of facts*,—and it is impossible for a thinking being *not* to theorize to some extent, upon every process passing in his view. He may be mistaken in his opinions,—for we are all prone to hasty conclusions; but he cannot observe without thinking, i. e. without *theorizing*: and happy is the man whose careful observations have enabled him to seize upon the *true theory* of the phenomena around him.

While I would thus urge upon Agriculturists—and especially upon the younger class, the importance of a correct knowledge of *all* that belongs to the Profession, I shall limit what I have to say, to a few cursory remarks on the propriety of being accurately acquainted with the history and character of those *Plants*—whether valuable or pernicious—which come under the daily notice of the farmer. Without derogating in the slightest degree from the importance of the other departments of Natural History, it may be safely affirmed that the *vegetable creation* presents an eminent claim to the consideration of the cultivators of the soil. It is emphatically with the *products of vegetation*—the great source of animal subsistence—that the Agriculturist is concerned: and if, in other pursuits, the operative finds it necessary to be well acquainted with his materials, it cannot be less desirable that the farmer should have an accurate knowledge of these objects which demand his care and attention. With such knowledge, he can not only understand precisely what plants are most worthy of culture, but, what is scarcely less important, he can comprehend the true character of those which require all his vigilance to exclude, or to extirpate from his grounds. He can not only identify, to his own satisfaction, the plants which it behoves him to know, but, by the use of an appropriate nomenclature, he can make himself perfectly intelligible, when communicating

* In reference to the use of *Lime*, I would here remark that some of the best farmers in Chester County are now of the opinion—in which I concide—that this valuable fertilizing agent is most advantageously employed as a *Top-dressing*,—when the land is to remain a few years as a meadow and pasture.

his information to others. The want of this knowledge, and, especially, the uncertainty of popular names, is a source of much confusion, and perplexity, in the intercourse of farmers, and in the essays of Agricultural writers.* Every district of country, and almost every neighborhood, has its own names for well-known plants: but they are apt to be variously applied, the same plant being frequently known by different names, and the same name often bestowed on very distinct plants. A striking instance of this may be cited, by way of illustration, in the use of the term *Herd's grass;* which, in *New England*, is applied to the grass known to us by the name of *Timothy*, or the *Phleum pratense*, of the Botanists:—whereas, in *Pennsylvania*, and perhaps in all the States south of it, the term *Herd's grass*, is appropriated to a plant technically called *Agrostis vulgaris*,—entirely distinct from the preceding, and of inferior value. This discrepancy is liable to cause annoying mistakes, and has even been the occasion of litigation, between the seedsmen of Boston and Philadelphia. I can perceive no remedy for the errors, and confusion, resulting from a loose and variable popular nomenclature, but a resort to the precise scientific names, imposed by systematic writers. The use of popular names may answer every purpose, in colloquial intercourse with our neighbors: But when we wish to be explicitly understood by strangers, or by persons in trade, it would be better to employ the exact language of science,—and to use those *names*, for objects, which have a specific meaning, recognized by all the world. Nor need this be regarded as an onerous task, so far as the practical farmer is concerned. To attempt to master the nomenclature of the whole vegetable kingdom, would indeed be a hopeless, and a futile undertaking: but to be able to designate, by the appropriate names, all those plants which he finds deserving on his grounds, is an accomplishment which every *young* farmer, at least, should resolve to acquire. In the middle States, there are to be met with, on our farms, perhaps *one hundred species* of plants which claim attention, either for their valuable, or their pernicious qualities,—or which ought to be expelled, as worthless occupants of the soil. These ought to be well known to every farmer: and surely, no intelligent man can doubt his ability to learn the names, and characters, of that number, when he recollects the facility with which all the world acquired the scientific name of a plant of recent notoriety. The classical name of *Morus Multicaulis* has become as familiar as a household word, in the mouths of the most illiterate rustics in the land: and it would be a libel on the intellect of American Farmers, to insinuate that they could not become equally well acquainted with those other plants which are daily before their eyes—either claiming their care, or requiring extirpation.

In truth the well-bred Agriculturist, whose business it eminently is to study, and turn to good account, the products of the soil, ought to know the name, the character, and the entire history, of *every plant* that he meets with on his premises,—or approaches him from those of his neighbors: But all I ask, as a commencement, is, that he should learn to know the limited number which it is his immediate interest to know, and of which it is disreputable, as well as disadvantageous, to be ignorant. Many worthy persons, I am aware, allege as an excuse for their deficiency in this kind of knowledge, that they *have not time* to acquire it: But I beg leave to intimate to such, that they have mistaken the nature of their complaint. It is not so much the *want of time*, which afflicts them, as the *want of taste*, and the *neglect of opportunities*. We all idle away countless hours of our existence, and especially in the morning of life, which might be successfully devoted to the attainment of useful knowledge. *Taste* is a faculty which can be cultivated; and *opportunities* to be improved, happen to all men. It is impossible for an intelligent observer to ramble amid the works of creation without acquiring some knowledge of their character; and if he cultivate the habit, he will insensibly accumulate an amount of information, which, to the careless, seems to be the result of long and laborious research. Some of the most successful students of Nature I have ever known, prosecuted their inquiries under a constant pressure of the every day cares and duties of life; and yet were remarkable for the exemplary performance of those duties. It will not avail, therefore, in this age and nation, to plead a mere *want of time*, as an excuse for neglecting those attainments, which are due alike to the best interests, and to the high character, of our Profession. But, if the practical farmer shall still insist that it is incompatible with his turn of mind, and habitual employments, to indulge in this kind of research, there is a simple and ready method by which he may obtain a sufficient knowledge of all the Plants which present themselves to his notice, and seem to require his attention. Let him collect a fair specimen of every such plant—both in flower and fruit: let the specimen be carefully pressed, and dried, so as to exhibit the characters; and let each species be preserved in a distinct sheet of paper, accompanied with a label, designating *the place of growth*, *the date of collection*, and *the common name, or names*, by which it may be known—together with any remarks that may tend to illustrate its history, or properties. The specimens, thus prepared, will then require nothing more than the *scientific names*, to determine their identity when spoken of, and to render them intelligible to all the world. Those names can be readily obtained from Botanical friends, who always take pleasure in affording such information; and thus, with a very trifling labor, (I should rather call it an instructive amusement,) and in the compass of a convenient volume, the Farmer may have conveniently at hand, the means of knowing by name, by sight, and by character, all the plants of his vicinage, in which he has the slightest interest. When memory fails, or doubts arise concerning the identity of any particular species, he can turn to the standard specimens in his little *Herbarium*, as the scholar does to his Dictionary, in the full confidence of obtaining a solution of his difficulties. His knowledge will be of that authentic kind which results from ocular demonstration: and by employing terms which convey definite ideas, he can communicate what he knows with clearness and precision.

Upon this simple and feasible plan, may be obtained a fund of accurate information, which would serve as a basis, or starting point, for more extended and important attainments. The intercourse between Agriculturists would become more interesting and profitable, because they would better understand each other. In discussing the merits, or demerits, of any given plant, they would know exactly what they were talking about; and not waste their arguments, as they sometimes do, under an utter misconception of the object in dispute. A *Kentuckian* and a *Pennsylvanian*, for example, are liable to exchange opinions concerning the value of "*Blue grass*," in their pastures, without being aware that they have reference to entirely distinct species. Similar mistakes often occur, in relation to noxious weeds. I have seen an excellent farmer waging war with the common *wild chamomile*, [*Anthemis Cotula, L.*] in the belief that he was contending with the *Ox-eye Daisy* [*Chrysanthemum Lucanthemum, L.*,] a vile nuisance, which has been permitted, partly by ignorance, but more by a culpable negligence, to overrun a large portion of our country: and in one of our Gazettes, a few years since, a series of vigorous essays appeared, calling the attention of farmers to the *wild Teasel* [*Dipsacus sylvestris, L.*,] a comparatively harmless biennial, and denouncing it under the full persuasion of its being that formidable pest, the *Canada Thistle* [*Circuim arvense*, Scop:] while the real Canada Thistle was extending itself, in the immediate vicinity of the Essayist, unnoticed and unknown!

Such errors are not only prejudicial to the farming interest, but absolutely disreputable to the Profession: and I have so much of the *esprit de corps* about me, that I am ambitious to see a correct knowledge, of those objects which immediately concern me, diffused throughout the whole Agricultural community. I certainly believe it to be entirely practicable, in the mode I have indicated, otherwise I should not have ventured to trespass upon your time and patience in urging its attainment.

I have insisted upon the necessity of studying the character of *weeds*, as well as of useful plants, because it will be found that the pernicious and worthless species amount to more than *three-fourths* of all those which occur on our farms, in this latitude: and, I may add, that *nine-tenths* of the most pestilent intruders have been introduced from abroad. Hence it is indispensable to neat farming, to possess a knowledge of all that ought to be excluded from our premises, as well as of those deserving culture. We should not only have this knowledge, but it must be accompanied by unceasing vigilance. The utmost care should be observed in the selection of seeds: and whenever a plant of strange, or suspicious character, makes its appearance it should be promptly attended to. Many weeds are disseminated in a single season, so as to cause much labor and trouble, in getting rid of them; and a few years of slovenly neglect will often render their thorough extirpation an almost hopeless task. There should be a cordial co-operation, among the whole fraternity, in resisting noxious invaders; for the carelessness of one individual may be a source of grievous annoyance to a whole neighborhood. The sloven should be shamed out of his negligence—and the ignorant induced to seek knowledge, by the successful *example* of his brethren: for example will ever be found contagious—as well for good, as for evil.

The perfection of beauty, in a farm, consists in fertile fields producing nothing but what is valuable to the proprietor, with enclosures neat and strong, and the very corners of the fences clear of all weeds and rubbish. The *literal* attainment of this, may be as difficult as the perfection of the human character: but it is certainly in our power, by means of industry, vigilance and skill, to approximate that condition,—and I hold it to be both our interest, and our duty to make it our constant aim and effort.

Believing the great fundamental truths, or first principles of Agriculture, to be well understood, and successfully carried out, I have deemed it altogether superfluous to dwell upon *them*, on this occasion; and have ventured, hastily and imperfectly, to urge the acquisition of what some may be disposed to consider as mere ornamental knowledge, or the unprofitable accomplishments of the Profession—yet which I do verily believe should be regarded as the *crowning attainment* of the intelligent Farmer. It is the *Corinthian capital*, required to complete the noble *column* of Agricultural science; and I trust it will yet appear that *we* are not the people to rest contented with an imperfect work. While the physical sciences, in every other department, are advancing with gigantic strides, the proud Profession of Agriculture should disdain to be found loitering in the rear. Let us, then, resolve to vindicate its just claims to the rank of an intellectual pursuit. Let us expunge from our vocabulary the philological stigma, by which the manly *Bauer*, of our Saxon ancestors, is degraded into the *Boor* of the vernacular,—and made synonymous with clownish stupidity. The term may have meaning, in the old world,—but should never be applicable here. It is the especial duty of *American Farmers* to keep pace with the march of Improvement, and to be distinguished for their general intelligence: for upon them, unquestionably, depend the permanence and stability of our free institutions. Possessing the soil by an absolute title, they are the real Proprietors of the country; and to them we must look for that fixedness of character—that steadiness and firmness of purpose, which is essential to the maintenance of rational liberty—and which can never be expected from a floating population. How important is it then, that they should cultivate every species of useful knowledge; *that knowledge* which is justly defined to be *Power*,—which enables *mind* to triumph over *matter*, and to control the destructive energies of brute force.

So long as our Agriculturists shall duly sustain the character, and meet the responsibilities, which belong to their position in society, *just so long* may we hope to see a People, competent alike to guard the purity of the Republic, and to

"Scatter plenty o'er a smiling land."

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*We almost every day see high-wrought notices of Plants—supposed by the writers to be new, or unknown, and which set the curious all agog, to learn what the wonderful novelties may be:—when, nine times out of ten, if the proper scientific names were given, we should recognize them as old acquaintances, and should always be able to form a tolerable estimate of their value, by a knowledge of their Botanical character and affinities. In all such cases, there is no surer protection against imposition, or what is vulgarly called *humbug*—than a competent acquaintance with the first principles of Natural History; which should be taught, and considered as an indispensable branch of education, in every school thoughout the land.

From the Magazine of Horticulture.

Grafting Grape Vines—and a remedy for the Peach Worm (Ægeria Exitiosa.) By Jas. Camak, Esq., Athens, Ga.

How can I better fortify myself against the incredulity of cultivators of the grape vine, on the subject of grafting, than by referring to French authorities? In that country, it must be admitted, that, from the importance of the grape vine as forming the basis of an extensive commerce, and also of an extensive domestic consumption, cultivators know what are the best modes of propagation. And

there, also, scientific men who have written on the subject, may be supposed to have fortified their positions by a close and careful examination of the best modes in daily use.

They have, in France, two ways of grafting grape vines, which are described as follows in the *Annales de l' Agriculture Francaise*:—

1. The stock is split perpendicularly in the middle to the length of six centimetres; and the graft, fourteen centimetres long, cut into the form of a wedge, is introduced and sunk well into the cleft.

2. By laying the root bare to fifteen centimetres below the first small roots, making a perpendicular cleft, placing the graft in it, and surrounding it with a band of rushes and grafting wax.

Now as to the point in dispute—the fitting of the bark of the scion and stock to each other.

M. Poiteau, in *Le Bon Jardinier* directs that the bark of the scion must be made to fit exactly to that of the stock.

M. Phouin, on the other hand, in the *Cours de Culture et de Naturalisation des Vegetaux*, says that the exact coincidence of the bark of the scion and stock is not necessary, because the sap rises by vessels dispersed in the woody substance. M. Thouin, moreover, strongly recommends the second mode of grafting above described, saying that the failures will not be more than five in one hundred.

Allow me, next, to quote the late Mr. N. Herbemont, of Columbia, S. C., a most successful cultivator. After referring to the usual modes of grafting, as applied to fruit trees, he says:—"But let vines be grafted in this manner, unless the operator knows the particular requisite for the vine, and the probability is that he will scarcely succeed once in five hundred trials. The mode of grafting which I practice usually, and which is attended with no difficulty, and very seldom fails, is as follows: All I do is to take away the earth round the vine, to the depth of four or five inches; saw it off about two or three inches below the surface of the ground. Split it with a knife or chisel; and having tapered the lower end of the scion in the shape of a wedge, insert it in the cleft stock so as to make the bark of both coincide (which is perhaps not necessary with the vine); tie it with any kind of string, merely to keep the scion in its place; return the earth to its place, so as to leave only one bud of the graft above the ground, and the other just below the surface, and it is done. (See *Farm. Reg.*, Vol. I, page 494.)

If, now, any one doubts that grafting grape vines is as simple a matter as I have represented it to be, I can only say, let him go and get personal experience on the subject by the only legitimate mode of getting it, that is by seeing, hearing and trying for himself.

By the way, why is it that there is so much confusion among nurserymen and cultivators in this country, in respect to that most excellent grape, the Chasselas? Hardly any two of them describe it alike; and but few of their descriptions, that I have seen, agree with the descriptions of the true Chasselas by the French, in the *Annales de l' Agriculture Francaise*. Can it be that climate, soil and culture causes the difference? I copy the French descriptions, hoping to aid in settling the matter:—

Chasselas de Fontainebleau, ou mieux, de *Thoumery*. Grappes a gros grains, peu serres. Il y a le noir, le violet, le rouge, le rose, le blanc, et le hatif. C'est le plus cultive pour la table, comme etant le meilleur.

Chasselas dore, bar-sur-Aube ou, raisin de Champagne: Feuilles lacinees, grandes, bien avant;—grappes grandes et grosses;—grades d' inegales grosseurs, fondans et sucres. Il murit tres bier dans la ragon de Paris. Il faudrait, pour qu'il n'arrivat pas en maturite que les automnes fussent froides. Tres cultive. Situation a l'est.

Compare these descriptions with most of those that are common in this country, and one is at a loss to account for the difference. I have seen the white, golden and Fontainebleau Chasselas, and white sweet water all set down as synonymous. Mr. Kenrick alone, as far as I have seen, seems to appreciate the true characteristics of the white and golden Chasselas.

In the *Annales*, the kinds of soil suitable for grape vines are described with singular felicity, corresponding so entirely with the results of my own experience that I must add a free translation of so much as relates thereto; being entirely satisfied that very many of the failures in vine culture in the United States result from negligence in this particular:—

Calcareous, sandy, flinty or rocky soils suit all the varieties of the grape; so also do granitic sands mixed with vegetable earths; volcanic earths likewise; and all lands that are light and warm and dry, lying in gentle declivities, affording an exposure to the south, reflecting the sun's heat, and being open to the action of the sun and wind. In all places, under circumstances such as these, the most delicate and richest grapes and wines are produced. In shaded situations, as well as in very stiff lands, both grapes and wine are of inferior quality. In wet soils they are worthless.—Here is the whole matter in a very few words.

The usual remedies for, and preventative of, the attacks of the *Ægeria Exitiosa* on the peach tree, are very troublesome in their application, and, in addition to this, require to be repeated every year. I propose a preventative that is cheap, easily applied, and so far as my experience has gone, is perfectly effectual. Take fish brine,—I use mackerel brine,—add to it an equal quantity of water—make a slight excavation in the ground, around the stem of the tree—pour into this, in the fall or spring, a pint of the diluted brine, taking care that it shall cover effectually the part of the tree in which the worm lives, and the work is done. The trees I made the application to were 2½ and 3 inches in diameter at the ground. To smaller trees a smaller quantity of brine should of course be applied. The trees treated thus have stood now for four years, without any farther application to them, and without the appearance of a particle of gum about their roots; and, of course, without being disturbed by this most mischievous depredatior. How long before another application of the brine will become necessary remains to to be seen. JAS. CAMAK.

Athens, Ga., Dec. 7, 1843.

ATTEMPTING THE CULTIVATION OF TOO MUCH LAND.—"The farmers generally attempt to cultivate too much land. The disadvantages arising from this cause, are many and obvious. It is no exaggeration to say, that the lands cultivated in the country are capable under a high state of cultivation, of producing twice as much as they now produce. This applies, we will suppose, not to the pasturing, but to the arable land alone. The farmer, then, in the purchase of his land, might save, say, one sixth of his original outlay in the reduced quantity of his arable land. The sum thus saved, woud enable him, in the first instance, to put his land in such a state of cultivation, as would in a few years double his crops per acre. Nor would the annual cost of cultivating an acre of land in this highly improved state, be materially increased. The cost of ploughing, planting and hoeing an acre of ground capable of producing fifty bushels of corn, would be no more than though the land were only capable of producing twenty five bushels. * * * Take the adverage of all the upland mowing in the country, and the yield will not probably exceed 1500 of hay to the acre. And three fourths of this land is capable of yielding two tons the acre. Let the farmers reduce the quantity of their grass land two thirds, and they will find that, with skilful cultivation, they save one half of the labor, and still obtain their usual quantity of hay. * * * * Let the farmers of the country reduce the amount of their cultivated lands, take special care to increase the quantity and quality of their manure, and adopt a wise rotation of crops, and they will soon find that lands which now "mock their scant manuring," would soon yield a plentiful harvest and richly repay their toil. Let them adopt the best system of husbandry, and this would prevent the emigration of our farmers to the West. They would soon see that the rugged soil of New England, under skilful culture, is when taken in connection with New England comfort, New England institutions, and a New England market, to be preferred to the more fruitful prairies of the West, where the productiveness of the soil contrasts so fearfully with the domestic comforts of the inhabitants, and the worth of their literary and religious institutions. Who, that reflects upon the subject, would be willing to exchange the comforts of a New England farm-house, and the refinement of New England society, for the privations of a log-hut in the wilderness?—Who would not endure the summer's heat, and winter's cold common to our climate, rather than the burn and chill of the ague-fever?"" —*Hudson's Address.*

AGRICULTURE.—The following inspiring extract is from the "Agricultural Address" delivered lately before the Yeomanry of New Haven, by Mr. Meigs of N. York. It well honors Agriculture:

"Recently the first order of society in point of intellisence, both here and in the old world, has found it necesto be in the fashion which now happily prevails, of doing honor to Agriculture, and all the peaceful arts. I noticed the other day that in France, the Decoration of the Legion of Honor had fallen upon a *silk culturist*, instead of a *soldier*. It is now thought honorable to be an Agriculturist. All that is produced on farms is exhibited in Europe to the admiring eyes of the Lords and Ladies. Louis Philippe, is Chairman of the Gardener's Club in Paris. James Madison, was *elected from the Political* Presidency to that of the Virginia *Agricultural* Society. John Taylor, of Caroline, a Governor of Virginia, has made himself eminent by his farming. His little book *Arator* the Ploughman is excellent. I admire it and its author. And let me name him who is first among all men, from the time of Cincinnatus. *Washington* was an enthusiastic farmer; and the last five years of his precious life were devoted to the favorite of his heart and understanding, the organization of a great *National Agricultural Department* of this republic.

He well knew that the only *treasury* on which Republicans can rely, *is the sacred soil on which they tread*. The soil which not only asks no discount, but ever promptly pays some twenty, some an hundred and some a thousand fold dividends, to the intelligent and industrious farmer! As to Agriculture! Follow, follow the glorious lead of Washington! Have your own boards of Agriculture! You lived from 1776 to 1789, without any government at all! You subdued all your enemies in and outside of your platform!—Government would not give your Washington a board of Agriculture, that is in plain American, a farmer's club! Now then do with that as you have done with the other matter. Put your shoulder to the wheel. Play Hercules! not pray to him!—Make, I say again and again, to the echo of it, make your Washington farmer's clubs all over the land! meet once or twice a month! hear all things, try; hold fast by facts."

EFFECTS OF DEEPENING THE SOIL.—The Liverpool Times gives the following fact, illustrating the beneficial effects of loosening the soil to a considerable depth:

"On Saturday last, there were exhibited in the Exchange News Room, two enormous specimens of the red beet, or mangel wurtzel, grown by Mr. Robert Neilson, in a field on his farm at Halewood. Each of them weighed upwards of 20 pounds. They were not merely curiosities in themselves, but remarkable proofs of the effects which may be produced on vegetation by the deepening of the soil, for the ground which produced these gigantic roots, would certainly have produced double the quantity of potatoes, or of turnips, or of ordinary sized beets, usually grown on an equal extent of land. They show that by deepening the soil, an amount of produce may be got from it much greater than any one has yet thought it possible to raise."

UTILITY OF GEESE AND ASSES TO FARMERS.—It has been long remarked, that cattle of all kinds are never unhealthy where geese are kept in any quantity; and the reason assigned is simply this, that geese consume with impunity certain noxious weeds and grasses which taint more or less, according to their abundance, the finest paddocks depastured by horses, bullocks, and sheep. Most farmers are aware of this, and in many places where the beeves appear sickly, change is tried, and the soil which the cacklers tread is converted for the time being into a sort of infirmary? The pasturing of two or three asses with sickly cattle has also been found productive of the best effects, from a similar reason.—*Eng. paper.*

Nutmeg Tree.—The nutmeg tree flourishes in Singapore, near the equator. It is raised from the nut in nurseries, where it remains till the fifth year, when it puts forth its first blossoms and shows its sex. It is then set out permanently. The trees are planted thirty feet apart, in diamond order—a male tree in the centre. They begin to bear in the eighth year, increasing for may years, and they pay a large profit. There is no nutmeg season. Every day of the year shows buds, blossoms and fruit, in every stage of growth to maturity. The nutmeg is a large and beautiful tree, with thick foliage and of a rich green color. The ripe fruit is singularly brilliant. The shell is glossy black, and the mace it exposes when it bursts, is of bright scarlet, making the tree one of the most beautiful objects of the vegetable world.—*Selected.*

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL SANDS.

The National Fair.—We have been requested to call the attention of the *Executive Committee of the Baltimore County Agricultural Society*, to the proceedings published in our last paper, of the meeting held in *Washington*, recommending the holding of a NATIONAL FAIR in the city of Baltimore in May next. We comply with this request with the more pleasure, as we know that the gentlemen composing that committee take a deep concern in whatever is calculated to advance the interests of the producing classes of our country.

Dr. Darlington.—We copy to-day, at the request of a valued correspondent, the address delivered by this distinguished gentleman before the Agricultural Society and Institute of New Castle County, Delaware, at their last fall fair. It was our intention to publish it, and should have so stated in our notice of it last week, but that in the career of an editor there are so many "slips between the cup and the lip," that we were fearful to promise it, lest something might intervene to prevent us from fulfilling our promise. And it was our intention to have accompanied itspublication with some remarks indicative of the estimation in which we held Dr. D's. address, but as our correspandent has done it more justice than we could, we shall content ourself by referring the reader to the prefatory observations which precede Dr. D's address.

Use of Lime.—We call attention to the communication of "Observer," in to-day's paper; and will seize the occasion to say, that we should feel very grateful to the Hon. *Judge Dorsey*, to whom our correspondent alludes, if he would favor us with a *paper* upon *his experience* in the use of this valuable mineral manure. Our correspondent thinks that the land of Judge Dorsey, which was injured by the use of lime, is a *lime stone soil*; if so, there may have been a sufficiency of the mineral in the soil prior to his application of it; in which event, an impairment of its productive capacity would be the inevitable result, as a *super-dose* would, as a necessary consequence, expel the ammonia from any decomposing and fermenting manures with which it might come in contact in the soil, at a ratio greatly beyond the requirements of the plants growing thereon.

We have ever been among the most zealous advocates for the use of lime; but in all our advice we have recommended *caution* to be observed in its application; and that before using it, it would be well to ascertain whether the soil is or is not deficient in it. We hear one person say that it had acted like a charm upon his land, while another will tell you, that he used it without effect upon soil of precisely the same texture where its good effects had been so manifest. The reason of this difference in effect, might be accounted for in one of these ways: 1st. That the land of the one had organic remains in it, and the other none. Hence the necessity for the analysis of soils, so that the farmer may go to work intelligently. That lime is one of the most powerful agents in the improvement of soils,, there can be no doubt; but that lime alone will make a *poor* soil *rich*, we never have nor never will believe. The food of plants consists of several substances, all of which is necessary to be present in the soil, before its fertility can be perfected—among these substances we hold lime to be of the very first importance—but we have long thought, that the quantity of lime to the acre, could be very materially decreased below a hundred bushels, as the only benefit to be derived to the growing vegetables from it, is from that part which is dissolved by the rains, which part is small indeed, in any one season. Why then make a *large* outlay for lime, when a *small* one would answer for all present purposes. To be sure, lime also performs a *mechanical* operation, in the change of the texture of the soil, and in so far as this effect may be desirable, a larger dose of lime may productive of benefit. But why apply 100 bushels of lime, per acre, to an old exhausted field, where there was nothing for it to act upon, when 25 would answer better? Our views are, that before land, which may have been *completely impoverished by bad culture*, can be materially benefitted by the use of lime, that two or three green crops—say of buckwheat or rye—should be ploughed in. Either of these crops may be grown by applying a bushel of plaster to the acre at the time of sowing. If this course of improvement were pursued, there would not be so many croakings about the inefficacy of lime. Lime, to act efficiently, must be combined with vegetable or animal manure—with these, there can be no question of its meliorating powers, but we do most seriously question its capacity, alone, of making an infertile soil a rich one.

With regard to the quantity of lime to be applied to an acre, there is great diversity of opinion—some apply 100; some more than that, while others think 80, 60, or 50 bushels to the acre is preferable, and then there are those who think 25 bushels enough; and we confess that we are among those who think favorably of the least quantity named, unless there should either be a larger quantity of organic remains in the soil, or some two, three and four green crops be first ploughed under. We reason in this way. If 25 bushels to the acre is more lime than can be dissolved in *one rotation*, why should we deprive ourself of the use of the money which the difference between 25 and 100 bushels would cost? If then, for present purposes, 25 bushels will answer for an acre, is not our interest to lime *four* acres with a hundred bushels, instead of putting that quantity on a single acre? The *outlay in money* to purchase a hundred bushels of lime deters many small farmers from using it; whereas if they could be satisfied that 25 bushels would answer as well, they would not hesitate to undertake the liming of their land; and thus would the improvement of our worn out soils go on more certainly and steadily—for let what be said, that may, the first cost of *lime*, at the rate of a hundred bushels to the acre, is a most formidable consideration, where a man has from 100 to 400 acres requiring improvement.

We will conclude by repeating what we have before said—that we believe, in all cases of improving lands much exhausted by cultivation, that for present purposes—say for a rotation of four or five years—25 bushels of lime, besides costing so much less, would be better than 100 bushels per acre—that it would be better to repeat 25 bushels per acre every four years, until 100 bushels had been applied, than to put the latter quantity on at one time.

Erratum.—The editor of the *Maine Farmer*, in his paper of the 9th of December, copied an article of ours which appeared in our paper on the 22d November, on the value of the potato crop of the United States, in which we find he has made *three* material errors; and as the *potato crop* is a very valuable one, we deem it important to make the necessary corrections. In the money-value of the crop of *New Hampshire* it should read $1,643,351 25 cts. instead of $1,143,351 25 cts. as stated: the money-value of the crop of *Kentucky* should have been $319,879 75 cts. instead of $310,879 75 cts. as copied: but the most fatal *error* of all is in the footing up of the aggregate money-value of the whole crop—that was properly stated by us to be $28,295,904 25 cts. but is erroneously made by our friend *Cole*, of the Maine Farmer, to be only $10,831 25 cents, an amount less than the value of the crop raised in the District of Columbia alone.

We do not often ask corrections to be made, because we have an aversion from putting our contemporaries to trouble, but as the errors in question are important, and the *last one* subtracts upwards of twenty eight millions from the value of this important crop, we would respectfully ask our good friend Cole to make the correction in his valuable journal. This we feel assured he will take the more pleasure in doing, as the products of a country are the true elements of its wealth.

The Maine Farmer.—This valuable Agricultural paper came to us last week in an entire *new dress*; but whether clad in an old or new one, it has that about it which renders it acceptable to our taste; for friend *Holmes*, its enlightened editor, has *such* a way of touching off whatever comes under his pen, that a very ordinary subject is transformed into one of interest.

New York Farmer and Mechanic.—We have received the 2d number of a new agricultural periodical, called the New York Farmer and Mechanic. It is published in the city of New York and edited by Mr. S. Fleet. The number before us is highly creditable to the talents of its conductor, and we welcome him into the corps editorial with our best wishes for his success.

Culture of Sugar.—The culture of sugar in *Texas* is becoming extensive and promises to be a profitable crop.

Nankin Dye.—The Western Ohio Farmer says that a pailful of *lye*, with a piece of copper half as big as a hen's egg boiled in it, will produce a fine *nankin* color, and will not wash out.

Poudrette again.—As we recorded a week or two since certain cases of failure in the use of this manure in Virginia, and as it is our custom to observe impartiality, we give place to the following communication, which shews a very different result produced by its use in Kent county, Delaware.

From the Farmers' Cabinet.

Poudrette on Corn.

Mr. Editor,—I last spring made experiments in Kent county, Delaware, on Indian corn, with poudrette, manufactured by Mr. Minor. This concentrated manure was applied in its usual form, that of a coarse powder—dropped in contact with the seed at the time of planting, and in other cases thrown upon the hill after the corn had come up. The experiments were made in three different fields, all however, of very similar soil, namely, a light clay loam, greatly impoverished by long tillage, without the assistance of manure. In every instance the corn grew off with a rapidity, which made it the admiration of all who saw and compared it with that growing in the vicinity, even such as had received the help of other manure. The quantity applied was only a gill to each hill, or about ten hushels to the acre, and the product was in every case, at least double that on the adjacent ground. Where the application was made in contact with the seed, the corn proved the best. I have made arrangements for using this valuable fertilizer quite extensively on corn next spring, and shall also try it as a top-dressing for wheat, to be applied in March and April. To those especially, who reside at a distance from large towns, and are without other abundant sources of manure, the poudrette is a most valuable acquisition, as its concentrated form allows it to be transported at comparatively trifling expense. Yours respectfully,

Philad. Dec. 30th, 1843. G. Emerson.

The Cotton Crop.—We make the following extract from a letter to the editor of the *Farmer's Cabinet*, written by T. Affleck, Esquire, of Adams county, Mississippi, by which it will be seen that he anticipates a short crop of cotton. The letter is dated the 26th of October, at which period much of the cotton of that part of Mississippi was still ungathered:

"We have had, and still have, one of the most ruinous seasons imaginable for the planter. Almost incessant rains, heavy wind and frequent great changes in the temperature. We have only very recently had a frost severe enough to injure the cotton, but the rains and warm, close weather, had already wound it up. Few in this region will gather over half a crop; and those who like myself, have considerable quantities of cotton yet ungathered, and

who thought themselves favoured, will be very little benefitted, as the seeds are sprouting in the bowls. Where the 2,000,000 of bales are to come from, which it was thought the present crop would amount to, I never could imagine; and now I do not believe the crop will reach 1,600,000."

Dr. Darlington's Address,

On the obligation of every Farmer to become familiar with the science of Botany, to a certain extent.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

Sir:—I have just read, with pleasure, your extracts from, and comments upon, the proceedings of the last meeting of the *New Castle County, Delaware, Agricultural Society*, communicated by that ever active and enlightened friend of the cause—Dr. James W. Thompson. But sir, I was disappointed that you did not promise to give, *in extenso*, the address of Dr. Darlington! I should myself have sent it to you, with a request that it might be spread before your readers, but that I could not withhold from my son, a young planter, even for so brief a space, the benefit of such impressions as such an address ought to make on every agriculturist who reads it.

In my humble judgment this address is one of the most valuable I have ever read—not for any practical information it contains, but for the persuasive and powerful inducements it holds out to all young farmers to the study of Botany, so far as to enable them to name and classify every weed and every spear of grass on their farms; and so distinguish, at least, the useful from the noxious. It is not possible to read this address without being impressed with the feeling, that such knowledge of Botany, while it may be easily acquired, is a necessary accomplishment for a *gentleman* farmer. By gentleman farmer I do not mean one, who wears bright spurs, drinks old wine, and drives a fine equipage!—to none of which do I object if his means will admit of it; but I mean a farmer—distinguished for his knowledge—and in the first place, for knowledge of the *principles of his own business*; and the statistical and economical facts and laws connected with it. What agriculture needs is, that those who pursue it, shall associate with it, the idea of pleasure and of honour; as well as of profit and loss. Its pleasures consist in the employment it affords to the mind, and its honours in being able to tell, not that certain manures and a certain process of tillage, *will* produce certain results—but *why and how they so produce them.*

If the farmer would elevate himself above the mere clod-hopper, surely he should regard the knowledge of the *names and properties of grasses and plants* that grow under his observation, as the A. B. of his business, intellectually speaking. To enforce the obligation and utility of becoming familiar with these names and properties, is the design of Dr. Darlington's address. For me to anticipate his arguments, which I am sure you will publish, would be like lighting a candle at the dawn of day, in advance of the rising sun. I cannot better convey my own impression of the value of his lecture than to say, that having been recently honoured with an invitation to deliver an agricultural address at several different places; and reflecting on the difficulty I should find in saying any thing at once new and useful; I entertained the question with myself whether I could in any way so well discharge the duty which these invitations, if accepted, would impose, as by publicly reading Dr. Darlington's observations at New Castle. I wish you could let them follow what is here said, in the way of unworthy preface, that your readers may judge for themselves whether I have overrated their merits and useful tendency. I. S. S.

Washington, 17th January, 1843.

Col. Atlee's Renting System.

For the American Farmer.

To elucidate that part of my renting system, as referred to by your Washington correspondent, I. S. S., so far as my own practice warrants a standard for judgment, my tenants have been operating upon good land—yielding the quantity, and sometimes more than double of that, which "I. S. S. guesses, as the probable average yield of our lands."

My own experience of the profits of farming—"having done personally at it, something more than merely to take a general look at results"—would not prompt me to engage at all in the cultivation of poor lands; consequently, would not wish to be instrumental in placing a tenant where I believe he could not live. I had reference therefore, entirely to productive lands.

I might say by way of commendation of my system, shewing thereby the effects of interested labour, that I have now tenants upon this plan, that, before its adoption, laboured for me by the day on the farm—earning about $120 per annum, and were boarded by me—which is the price here, only for the best hands—that now, since they are interested in all they do, in my judgment the labour done by them, including their increased care of every thing, doubles the value of their former work.

It may be further added, that at first view of this system of renting, it would appear complicated and attended with much trouble, but the reverse is the fact. The plan embraces every department of interest, according to the proportions laid down, no account of which is necessary without sales are made, or a division of produce takes place. Also, the authority retained by the landlord in the direction and supervision of his lands, allows him measurably to have them farmed to his mind.

James C. Atlee.

New Windsor, Carroll Co. Jan. 17th, 1844.

For the American Farmer.

Lime—sometimes deleterious.

It is well known to you, and probably to most of your readers, that Judge Dorsey of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, whose estate is in the famous district of Elkridge, is one of the most attentive, observing and judicious farmers that our state can boast of—yet he says that his lands have been much injured, and exhausted of their wonted capacity to produce heavy crops of corn and wheat, by the *use of lime!* at least I so understood him in a brief conversation lately in a rail road car. There was not time to benefit by a full understanding of his experience and observations, but if you could prevail with him to detail them, in reference to the use and effects of lime and plaster, which, to be better understood, should be accompanied by a description of his soil, you would render an essential service to your patrons. I believe, but am not sure, that his is lime stone land.

From being ignorant of, or unbelieving in, the value of lime, the community has lately been running, perhaps, into the other extreme, concluding that lime is the great elixir that is to fructify every kind of soil. Prying curiosity, the great purveyor of knowledge, has discovered many of the secrets of nature—but she has many yet in reserve for the industrious explorer. Give us then but light. What so pleasant as the acquirement of knowledge—an appetite for that is the one that never cloys; the more it devours, the more it reacts—yet there is no surfeit.

Observer.

The Manure called Guano.

This is a substance which has been used for a great number of years in Peru, (S. America,) for manure. It is found very abundantly on the islands off the coast, and as long ago as when Sir Joseph Banks was in his prime, was made the subject of experiment. Recently quite an impulse has been given to the trade, and it has become and is becoming an article of considerable import. It is supposed to be formed from the excrement, feathers, bones, &c. &c., of the innumerable flocks of sea birds, who visit and breed upon the islands of the ocean, and on the coasts in different parts of the world.

Since it has grown into value, new localities of it are discovered very often, and it has even been found in a sort of fossil state in New York state.

We have more than once suggested the idea of its being found on the coast of Labrador, for it is well known that millions and millions of water fowl congregate in summers upon that coast, where they breed in abundance.

It is found to be an excellent fertilzer, and so stimulating in its nature as to require but a very little to manure an acre.

Some consider 35 bushels on an acre equivalent to 70 loads of good rotted dung.

In South America they use it on grass lands and upon their corn, it requiring but a very little to each hill.

Forty thousand tons of it were imported into England in 1842, but such is the thirst of gain among some unprincipled dealers, that it is often adulterated and thus injured.

It has been analyzed by different chemists, and several attempts have been made to prepare a similar article by the union of ingredients partaking of the character of the elements of Guano.

The following has been laid down as coming very near to the natural Guano, both chemically and in its effects upon vegetation.

315 lb. (7 bushels) of bone dust.
100 lb. of sulphate of ammonia, containing 35 lb. of ammonia to the 100.
5 lb. pearlash.
100 lb. of common salt.
11 lb. of dry sulphate of soda (glauber salts.)

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531. To this add 100 lb. chalk, (we suppose air slacked lime will do as well.)

It has been found to be equal to 4 cwt. of Guano, and comes much cheaper.

We are preparing to manufacture some of this artificial Guano, to experiment with, should we live to see another summer.—*Maine Farmer.*

Butter Making.—It is possible to make nearly as good butter in winter as in summer. In making butter, whether in summer or winter, very much depends upon the temperature at which the milk is kept. In summer, the milk should be kept nearly down to the temperature of spring water, and in winter, if possible, it should not be colder. But when the dairy is not so constructed as to preserve this temperature in winter, it is a great advantage to heat the milk until it simmers, before setting it away. If the milk is scalded, the cream readily separates, and little difficulty is experienced in getting butter by churning. If the cream is so badly kept as to become bitter, enough salæratus to sweeten it will make the butter come more freely. If the cream is very cold, warm water should be added when churning. In the summer it is sometimes well to add cold water. When the butter comes, the milk should be thoroughly worked out. It should be churned early in the morning, and the working should be finished the same day; otherwise the milk in it may curdle, and then it cannot be worked out. In the summer, cold water may be used with advantage to keep it hard while working. Whenever it begins to get oily, the working should cease until it is again cooled. It is stated of Mr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, so extensively known for his great attainments in every thing connected with husbandry, that in contracting for his annual supplies of butter for his own table, he requires his tenants to work it with the hand; and for the reason that *beating* is necessary to deprive it of the buttermilk—that *rubbing* with a ladle is not sufficient.—*Louisville Jour.*

Ancient Prayer to Ward off Rust in Wheat.—Ever since the cultivation of wheat has engrossed the attention of mankind, they have had to contend against the evils of insects and the destructive effects of disease, which oftentimes swept away both the crops and the hopes of the farmer.

We know by scripture, that the cultivators among the ancient Jews had to contend with all these difficulties.

"I have smitten you," says the prophet Amos, "with blasting and mildew; when your gardens and your vineyards, and your fig trees, and your olive trees increased, the palmer worm destroyed them."

"I smote you with blasting and mildew, and with hail in all the labors of your hands." (Hosai 11, 17.)

A writer upon this subject, translates a prayer that was in use by the Greeks and Romans, when supplicating their Deities, to ward off this calamity. It seemed that they understood right well the effects of the disease, but in the darkness of their minds, as it regarded moral and religious questions, they attributed it to the dispensation of a certain deity, whose special duty it was to destroy the crops, unless appeased by sacrifices and prayers. The following is the prayer used on this occasion, while sacrificing to Rubigo, the deity in question.

"O, blighting Rubigo,* spare the corn plants, and let the ear wave gently o'er the surface of the earth: suffer the crops which have been nourished by the propitious stars of Heaven to grow until they become fit for the sickle.

"Thine is no small power; the crops thou hast marked, the dispirited cultivator reckons as lost. Neither winds, nor showers, so much injure the corn; neither when bitten by the frost does it acquire a hue so pallid, as if the sun fervently heats the moist stalks; then, oh! dread Goddess, is the opportunity for thy wrath;—be merciful, I pray, and withhold thy rusting hands from the crops; nor harm the cultivated land: it is *sufficient to be able to do harm.*"—*Maine Farmer.*

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*The latin term for *Rust* or *Mildew.*

Food of Vegetables.

The following article from the New Genesee Farmer, will strike the intelligent reader, as being entitled not only to be read, but studied. It is written by Dr. Lee of Buffalo, New York, a gentleman possessing powers and original views upon all matters connected with science, and who has also, the happy *nack* of making people understand him. We commend it to all.

Use and Preparation of the Food of Vegetables.

To understand the process of nature by which certain elements of earth, air, and water are transformed into living plants, and the best method of preparing these elements so as to produce the largest crops at the least expense, are objects worthy of the careful and profound study of every cultivator of the soil.

If we take 100 pounds of ripe hay, oats, wheat, or corn, including the roots, stems, and seed, and burn them carefully in the open air, we shall have only about 3 per cent. of alkaline earths left, most of which can be dissolved in water. If we burn a pound of candles, or a pound of oil, whether animal or vegetable, the whole of these substances (which are truly "the fat of the land") will be transformed into invisible air and vapor. The atmosphere and water are nature's great storehouse for preserving an exhaustless supply of vegetable food. By *respiration*, *fermentation*, and *rotting*, all organic structures are transformed into gases and soluble salts. It is from the lime dissolved in the ocean that the oyster elaborates its shell, and the coral insect rears its massive mountains of coral rock. It is mainly from the phosphate of lime held in solution in its mother's milk, taken from her food, that the sucking calf elaborates its losid bone. Without lime to be dissolved in her gastric juices, and taken into her circulating blood, the hen can make no solid shell to her egg. The unnursed infants in the great cities of London and Paris, brought up without milk, and fed on arrow-root and other food that contains little or no lime, have soft, cartilaginous, rickety bones, simply because neither animals nor plants can make *something* from *nothing*.

As a general rule it is strictly true, and moreover it is a truth of great practical importance, that a feeble, diseased stem in wheat, liable to rust, &c., and a shrunken berry, are owing to some removable defect in the food of the plant. So different are the essential elements of the seed of this plant from those of its straw, that it is practicable to raise wheat that will yield twice as much grain in weight as there is weight of straw, taking it from the root. That it is also practicable to grow wheat which will give five times as much straw as grain, most farmers know by sad experience.

On page 254 of Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, 1842, Gen. Harmon, of Wheatland, states, that "In 1803 Pettin Sheffer, Esq., of this town, harvested 40 acres of wheat grown on the Genesee flats, that produced 62½ bushels per acre." What elements did nature provide, and where did she get them, for the growth of such a crop? Manifestly they came from the mineral and vegetable matter washed down from the highlands above. These elements are just as abundant now as they were in 1803, or at the close of the creation. Having found out, within the last 40 years, since Mr. Sheffer harvested his famous crop, what these vegetable elements are, and how to combine them under more favorable arrangements for the production of *cultivated* plants that nature has anywhere done, men of science have greatly exceeded the above large product. From nature's crab-apple, that weighs less than an ounce, science has at last grown fruit weighing twenty times as much, or 2,000 per cent. more than the original!

By the use of charcoal and lime, a Mr. Pell, of Goshen, in this State, has harvested this season at the rate of 78 bushels 24 quarts of wheat per acre. The ground was accurately measured by a surveyor's chain, and the grain in a sealed half-bushel, and the statements are all sworn to by two respectable men. I notice this triumph of science with the more pleasure, from the fact that I have long and zealously urged the use of these abundant elements upon the attention of the readers of the papers for which I have written.

It is more than twenty years since I first began to use pulverized charcoal to absorb the gases given off by decomposed vegetable and animal matter, urine, and the like, to be applied to garden and field crops. Its value in correcting the taint in meat, and purifying rain-water in filtering cisterns, led me to believe that it would be just the thing to absorb the food of plants from the atmosphere, into which so much passes, and hold it about their roots in a condition that neither dew, rain, snow, frost, nor the heat of the sun, would injure it or take it away. To labor hard to save and draw out manure on to one's fields, and then lose 60 or 80 per cent. of this vegetable food by its solution in water, and washing away to form something like the Genesee flats in the bottom of Lake Erie, I never regarded as very good economy—which, by the way, is the soul of good husbandry.

A pint of human urine contains ammonia enough to make, with the other necessary elements, 60 pounds of good wheat. Charcoal will absorb this liquid, and render it quite inoffensive to the olfactories of the nose. The direct application of urine to the soil, after the German practice, is bad economy, unless the soil contain a large portion of humus, or vegetable mold, for its tenacious retention. It is a better plan to have a reservoir filled with pounded charcoal under the stable floor, or near to the stable, into which the liquid excretions of all animals should be conducted like cider from the press. When nearly or quite saturated with urine, this coal will be manure of extraordinary power and durability—for nothing in the soil, but the roots of growing plants, will be likely to extract a particle of this vegetable food.

After wheat, corn, or grass has taken up all this nourishment, the coal (unlike lime, which has parted with its carbonic acid in the same way) is insoluble in water, and remains, as in a filtering cistern, to absorb and hold, for the benefit of the growing plant, more vegetable food from every rain that falls to the earth. For be it remembered, that dew, rain, and snow—the poor man's manure, bring back to the earth all the gaseous elements given off by all the fires, respiration, and other decomposition of solid and liquid matter.

For the same reason, coal should be largely used in the formation of compost heaps. And where the farmer has straw which he can use to make beds for his horses and cattle in the stable, this, with a quantity of coal pounded with a flail, can be spread upon the table floor, to absorb all liquid excretions. All these excrementitious substances should be kept under shelter. Wood ashes, lime, and muck, or vegetable mold, are valuable ingredients in all compost heaps. The coal stratum should be placed between the lime and the manure, and the whole should be covered with turf or more coal.

The analysis of soils abounding in fragments of limestone rocks shows a marked deficiency of this important element in their composition. The reason of this perhaps unexpected deficiency I will now explain:

Disintegrated limestone is decomposed by the vital action of plants, and its cabonic acid is taken up by their roots. It will then combine with more of this gas which abounds in the air and soil, and will again give it out to growing vegetable. It is in this way that plaster (sulphate of lime) after it has parted with its oil of vitriol, often produces such wonderful effects, although the amount applied is less than one fourth thousandth parts of the soil from which plants draw their nouishment. The action of the sulphuric acid, as I understand the matter, I will not stop to elucidate. But I wish to fix public attention upon the circumstance, that when lime in the soil has parted with its acid, whether sulphate or carbonic, and especially the latter, it is soluble in water, and hence very liable to be washed out of the soil by rains, &c. All water that has passed though a soil possessing sufficient lime to be good wheat land, is *hard*, or holds lime in solution of which it has robbed the soil. The same is true, in a less degree, with regard to leaching of the soil, and its loss of alumina, potash, and soda. The cultivation of the earth, without allowing any vegetables to grow upon it, would exhaust its fertility very rapidly.

The remedy for this is, to cultivate less land in grain crops, and cultivate it far better; to remove all excess of water by draining; to plough deep, and turn up to the sun virgin earth from below, and apply thereon manure, coal, lime, ashes, and salt. Instead of applying large quantities of quick lime at distant periods, it is far better to apply a less quantity and often, to make up for the loss that occurs from its being dissolved in water, and carried with it into rivers and the ocean.

Leached ashes are valuable, when applied to grass lands; and are far from being worthless on wheat, rye, oats, and barley—all of which need their silicate of potash, to give them a good, firm stem. Grass and wheat know as well how to convey the apparently insoluble elements in leached ashes up into their organic structure, as did the trees from which these ashes were obtained. D. L.

Buffalo, Dec. 17, 1843.

[Communicated for the American Farmer.]

Lime.

Baltimore, 3d January, 1844.

To Mr. E. J. Cooper, Baltimore.

Sir:—During the past fall I have purchased several loads of lime for agricultural purposes, viz: 800 bushels of quick lime from the Schuylkill at 15 cts. per bushel, delivered at Port Penn in Delaware, and said by the tenant to be decidedly the best lime he had received. I had supplied him with a close tin cannister and requested him to take a handful from every 2d or 3d cartload as it was delivered from the vessel, fill the cannister, close it carefully and return it to me.

About the same time I ordered from yourself 2000 bushels of slacked lime, at 8 cents per bushel, to be delivered at my farm on the Sassafras river. I supplied the tenant with a cannister, as above, and gave him the same directions—requesting him to seal it carefully in the envelope sent, and return it by the boat that brought my grain to Baltimore. I give you below the quantitative analysis of both samples with reference to the pure lime. We will call the Schuylkill No. 1, and the Baltimore County No. 2.

No. 1—Schuylkill—cannister filled with pieces about the size of an egg—weighed 22½ ounces troy. The contents were reduced to powder—100 grains of the powder we estimate to contain

43.10 of Oxide of calcium, or absololutely pure quick lime.
40.33 of Oxide of magnesium, or calcined magnesia.
4.80 of Silica—iron and alumina.
11 77 of Water and carbonaceous matter.

100.

No. 2.—Baltimore County—a cannister of the same capacity, full, weighed 21¾ ounces troy.

43 91 of Oxide of calcium.
42.00 of Water.
14.09 of Carbonaceous and earthy matter.

100.

301 bushels of No. 2 will weigh as much as 300 bushels of No. 1—if then we estimate that 100 bushels of No. 1 contains 43.10 bushels of quick lime, and we pay 15 cts. per bushel for the 100 bushels—the pure lime will cost 34.80 cts. per bushel.

Again, if upon the same principle we estimate 301 bushels of No. 2 at 8 cts. per bushel, and calculate that it contains 131.73 bushels of pure lime, we pay at the rate of 18.27 cts. per bushel for the pure lime of No. 2, thus compared to No. 1, without reference to hauling.

I fear that your sample of lime was taken from the top of the heap after exposure on the shore to rain, as it was reduced to a stiff paste in the mortar. The tenant assures me in his letter he took the sample as I directed—but I think you had better authorize me to take a sample myself at the wharf here as it is put in the vessel—I cannot believe that you combined so much water with it as this contained—perhaps the vessel leaked.

Yours respectfully, David Stewart, *Analyst.*

Large yield of Corn, &c.—It is stated in a recent number of the Southern Planter, that John M. Botts, of Henrico, Va., has raised this year, one hundred bushels of corn upon an acre of land.—And why should not this quantity become common on our farms? Why should not our *farming* operations become synonymous with *gardening* upon a large scale?

We entirely believe, and occasion has been taken to make the suggestion in the Cabinet before this, that the answer to these questions may be sought in the fact, that the operations of our farmers are upon too large a scale; that is, they till more land than is proportionate to the capital which they are able to employ on it. Of course, and of necessity, their tillage is deficient, and their land remains to be unimproved, not yielding any thing like its maximum profit.

In this young country, stretching from the Bay of Fundy to Cape Sable, and from this to the Rocky mountains, with a population but thinly spread over the whole of it, our redundancy—our surplus, it is plain to be seen, must be land: in England, on the contrary, their surplus is capital, and labour; and therefore it is, that their agriculture is far superior to ours. They make outlays in their farming

operations, which enables them to bring their lands to approximate at least, in many instances to the highest state of productiveness. Their large amount of capital, and their surplus of labour are thus brought into the market, and made available, both for the general good and individual profit. We lack capital, and we lack labour—but having abundance of land, we are persuaded to undertake the management of farms, which are extensive beyond our means to make the most of, and not unfrequently we are found going behind-hand, on plantations of two or three hundred acres. The man whose farm is larger than his means, must of necessity be a poor farmer—his land grows thinner and thinner—his crops lighter and lighter—and his labour, in proportion to the returns from his lands, becomes heavier and heavier, for the furrow, it will be acknowledged, is just as long in a corn-field that will yield but fifteen bushels to the acre, as is one that will give one hundred.

In connection with this subject, we recollect an anecdote of the late William West, brother of Sir Benjamin the painter, and one of the best farmers in Delaware county, and the late Benjamin Johnson, of this city, who, at the time alluded to, had just purchased a farm. He inquired of William West, what method he should adopt to render it the most profitable? "Make it rich," was the reply. "Ah, but it will cost too much money." "Then make twenty acres rich." "But that also, will cost too much." "Then enrich ten—or if not ten, five—and if not five, make one acre rich. At any rate, enrich a part as soon as possible, always having an eye to enriching the whole: the part first made rich, will immediately help to enrich the other" Who will say that this advice does not contain a text, that will bear to be speculated upon by many of our readers, during the whole of one of these long winter evenings?—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

BEST TIME FOR CUTTING TIMBER.—For many years my attention has been turned to ascertain the proper time to cut timber to insure its greatest durability. I am satisfied that the spring, when the sap flows freely, is the best time to fell timber. I am borne out in this opinion by the following statements that I have collected.

J—— C—— informed me that a detachment of British troops crossed from Philadelphia the 1st day of May, in 1777, and on the 2d commenced cutting down his woods for the supply of the army, and at the same time to burn up his fencing, which they completely accomplished.—"But," said he, "they taught me the proper time to cut timber to make it last. After they marched off, I found many trees that were not cut into cord wood; those I split into rails, believing, at the time, they would soon decay, from their being cut in the spring—but I have been agreeably disappointed,—most of them are as sound now as when made into fence." This he related five-and-twenty or thirty years after the peace of '83.

Conversing with an old gentleman in the neighborhood of Haddonfield, he told me that in the spring of the year he was making fence. "My fences," said he, "are all of cedar, but falling short of cedar rails, and having none from the swamp, I was induced to cut down a pine tree and convert it into rails to finish out my fence—they were the only pine rails I ever made use of. Ten or twelve years after this, when resetting my fence, I found the pine rails so sound that I let them remain; since then I have not seen them, having left my farm." I proposed taking a ride and look if any of them were remaining. We did so, and found a number in the fence perfectly sound. I asked how long they had been there. He replied, between 28 to 30 years.

An old friend related the following: "I served my apprenticeship to a carpenter. During my apprenticeship my employer was sent for to build a barn for a farmer in the neighborhood, who was very particular to have every thing done in the best manner. In the old of the moon, in the month of February, he cut down and hauled all the logs necessary for the frame. In the spring my employer was sent for, and when we came to hew the sills, one was so defective we were compelled to get another from the woods to supply its place. Whilst we were building the barn he would frequently lament the loss of the sill he cut in the winter, saying 'in a few years I shall have to put in a new sill, for this one will rot,' pointing to the one he cut in the spring. But, said this old friend, I lived to see the same barn moved, and before it could be effected, they were compelled to put three new sills under it; they were all rotten except the one cut in the spring." This satisfied me that the spring was the proper time to fell timber to insure its lasting well.—*Farmers Cabinet.*

Remarks by the Editor of the Boston Cultivator.

We have found by experiments that trees cut early in the spring and remaining with their bark on, decay sooner than those cut in the fall or first of the winter, when they are not so full of sap. But when cut the latter part of spring or in the former part of summer, a season in which they are growing fast, and much of the sap has gone into the leaves, they will be durable, and if the bark be taken off, and the timber is well seasoned, it will be more durable and more solid and heavy, than if cut at any other season of the year.

We consider the first part, or even the middle of spring, an unfavorable time for cutting timber in this climate. June is preferable, the month in which the trees have the most rapid growth, and a favorable time for pealing off the bark; and when this is removed, the *combrium*, often called *sliver*, which the elaborated sap, returning from the leaves, is forming into a new layer of wood and bark, is exposed and soon dries; but if the bark remain on, this new layer, being full of juice and enveloped in the bark, would promote decay.

EGGS are thirty cents a dozen in Boston, and thank you at that. The Daily Mail says the hens have called a meeting in 'Hornby,' the middle place of down east, to decide whether they can afford at the present prices to lay two eggs a day.

NATIONAL FAIR.

At the adjourned meeting of the friends of Agriculture and Manufactures, held on the 10th instant at the hall of the House of Representatives, Col. TALIAFERRO, of Virginia, was appointed chairman, and R. E. HORNER, of New Jersey, and J. F. CALLAN, of the District of Columbia, secretaries.

The Hon. WM. P. THOMASSON, of Kentucky, one of the committee appointed under the direction of the previous meeting, made a report; after a full and free discussion of the subject, both as to the objects, time, and place, in which Messrs. THOMASSON of Kentucky, HUDSON of Massachusetts, MORRIS of Philadelphia, HUNT of New York, HENLEY of Indiana, IRVIN of Pennsylvania, and ELLSWORTH, of the District of Columbia, and others took part, the following resolutions were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That this meeting approve of and recommend the holding a National Fair at Baltimore.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Agricultural Society of Baltimore to give notice of the time and place, and invite other agricultural and industrial associations, as well as individuals, to attend the Fair and bring specimens of stock, home products, mechanic arts, and manufactures.

Resolved, That the Secretaries of this meeting be requested to communicate a copy of the above to the Agricultural Society of Baltimore.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed to aid in making the necessary arrangements to carry the above object into effect, viz: Dr. Gideon B. Smith of Baltimore, Dr. James W. Thomson of Delaware, R. E. Horner of New Jersey, T. B. Wakeman of New York, and Abbott Lawrence of Boston.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee of correspondence, to aid in effecting the above objects, viz: Hon. John S. Skinner and H. L. Ellsworth of the District of Columbia, Hon. Wm. Wilkins of Pennsylvania, Hon. Dixon H. Lewis of Alabama, and Hon. Charles Hudson of Massachusetts.

JOHN TALIAFERRO, *Chairman.*

R. E. HORNER, J. F. CALLAN, } *Secretaries.*

A SITUATION IS WANTED AS MANAGER

Of a Farm, by a single man, who can produce the best recommendations for his character and skill in all the operations of farming—he would be willing to go to any quarter of the country. A line addressed to X. Q. care of the editor of the American Farmer, Baltimore, will be attended to. de 6 3t

GREEN GAGE PLUM.

The subscriber has in his assortment of superior Fruits, a very fine tree of above description, originated by himself from the seed, pronounced by a competent judge superior to any thing he has seen in England. He can furnish them at $1 per tree, of good size, smaller ones, 50 cents. Also, a few of the PEACH APRICOT, the best of the apricot family, price 50 cents per tree—and his famous GENESEE RASPBERRY, at $10 per 100 plants.

oc 18 3t JOSEPH HUISLER.

BALTIMORE MARKET, Jan. 22.

Beef, Balt. mess,	8½a9	Butter, Glades, No.	1.13a
Do. do. No. 1,	6½a7½	Do. do.	2, 7a11
Do. prime,	5a6	Do. do.	3, 5a7
Pork, mess	10½a11½	Do. Western	2, 7a
Do. No. 1	9½a9¾	Do do.	3, 5a6
Do. prime	a9½	Lard, Balt. kegs,	1, 6½a7
Do. cargo,	9½a	Do. do.	2, none
Bacon, hams, Ba. lb.	7a	Do. Western,	1, 6½a
Do. middlings, "	4a	Do. do.	2, 5a5½
Do. shoulders, "	5a	Do. do. bls	1, 6
Do. asst'd, West.	3a4	Cheese, casks,	6½a7½
Do. hams,	3a7	Do. boxes,	6½a7
Do. middlings,	3½a4	Do. extra,	10a20
Do. shoulders,	2a3½		
COTTON—			
Virginia,	8½a 9½	Tennessee, lb.	7
Upland,	8½a10	Alabama,	8 a10
Louisiana,	9½a10	Florida,	7a8
North Carolina,	7 a	Mississippi	
LUMBER—			
Georgia Flooring	12a15	Joists & Sc'ling, W.P.	7a10
S. Carolina do	9a11	Joists & Sc'ling, Y.P.	7a10
White Pine, pann'l	25a27	Shingles, W. P.	2a9
Common,	20a22	Shingles, ced'r,	3.00a9.00
Select Cullings,	14a16	Laths, sawed,	1.25a 1.75
Common do	8a10	Laths, split,	50a 1.00
MOLASSES—			
Havana, 1st qu. gl	17½a20	New Orleans	24a25
Porto Rico,	26	Guadaloupe & Mart	26a28
English Island,		Sugar House,	28a36
SOAP—			
Baltimore white,	12a14	North'rn, br'n & yel.	3½a4½
brown & yll'w	4½a5½		
TOBACCO—			
Common	2 a 3½	Yellow,	8 a10
Brown and red,	4 a 5	Fine yellow,	12a14
Ground leaf,	6 a 7	Virginia,	4 a 9
Fine red	6½a 8	Rappahannock,	
Wrappery, suitable for segars,	8a13	Kentucky,	3 a
		St. Domingo,	13 a11
Yellow and red,	7a10	Cuba,	15 a38
PLASTER PARIS—			
Cargo, pr ton cash	3.12a	Ground per bbl.	1.12a
SUGARS—			
Hav. wh. 100lbs	9a10.50	St. Croix, 100lbs	7.00a8.00
Do. brown	a7.50	Brazil, white,	a
Porto Rico,	6 a7	Do. brown,	
New Orleans,	6.a6.75	Lump, lb. c.	
FLOUR—We quote			
Superfine How. st., from stores, bl.			$4.50a
Do. City Mills,			4.50
Do. Susquehanna,			4.37a
Rye, first			3.12a
Corn Meal, kiln dried, per bbl.			2.62
Do. per hhd.			a
GRAIN—			
Wheat, white, p bu	1.03	Peas, black eye,	50a
" best Pa. red	95a	Clover seed, store	$6½a
" ord. to pri. Md	75a95	Timothy do	2.a2.25
Corn, white,	a40	Flaxseed, rough st.	1.25
" yellow Md.	a43	Chop'd Rye, 100 lbs.	1.18
Rye, Md.	53a55	Ship Stuff, bus.	15a
Oats, Md.	26a27	Brown Stuff,	12a
Beans,	100	Shorts, bushel,	9 a
FEATHERS—per lb.			28a33
COFFEE—			
Havana,	7 a 8	Java, lb.	10 a12
P. Rico & Laguay.	6¾a 8	Rio,	6½a8¼
St. Domingo,	5¾a 6½	Triage,	3½a 4½
RAISINS—Malaga bunch, box,			1.80a1.90

WOOL—

WASHED.	UNWASHED.
Saxony,	Saxony and Merino
Full Merino,	Common, to ½ blood,
3-4 blood do.	Pulled,
1-2 do do	
1-4 and common,	
Tub washed,	

CANDLES—

Mould, common,	9a10	Sperm,	32a33
Do. choice brands,	10½	Wax,	60a65
Dipped,	8a 9		

Cattle—600 head of Beef Cattle offered on Monday at the scales, all of which met with a ready sale at former prices. About 200 head were taken by packers, and the balance by butchers at prices ranging at $1.50 to 2.37½ per 100lbs. on the hoof as in quality, which is equal to 3a4 50 net.

Hogs—But few live hogs in market, and we note sales of about 150 head at $4.37 per 100 lbs.—Killed hogs $4 a4 12, and dull

Flour—700 bbls Howard-st. Flour, of good mixed brands from store this morning at 4.50—Holders generally ask the same price, & very firm—receipt price at 4.37. Offers of 4.50 were refused to-day for City Mills—The stock is very light and holders are not anxious to sell

Grain—No receipts by water of wheat. Small parcels by wagons sell at 90a95 cents for good to best reds. There have been no supplies Corn received for several days. It is probable that white would sell at 40 cents, and yellow 43 c.—Oats 26a27.

Tobacco—We have nothing new or important in this article. The new crop arriving is but small in quantity, and good parcels sell readily—The stock of all infer. sorts is increasing, as the demand for these kinds for some time past, has very greatly subsided—We quote as heretofore. Better qualities Ohio sell readily at $3a4.50 for common to middling; good 5a6; fine red and wrappery 6.50a10, fine yellow 7.50a10, and extra wrappery 11a13. The inspections this week are 76 hhds. including 10 Maryland and 66 Ohio.

PRIZE BULLS AND CALVES.

The subscriber offers for sale two full blood Devon Bulls, which obtained the two first prizes offered for Devon Bulls at the Baltimore County Agricultural Fair, 19th Oct. last, viz.

Richard, 2 years old last spring, $50
Marmion, 1 ear old last June, 50

ALSO,

3 full blood Devon Bull Calves, got by the celebrated bull Waverly. They are large and perfectly beautiful. They are 4, 6 and 8 months old at this time. Price $40 each. Address

JOHN P. E. STANLEY,
de 27 50 S. Calvert st Baltimore.

POLAND FOWLS,

At $1.50 per pair, for sale by d 19 S. SANDS.

DEVON BULL FOR SALE.

Apply to no 29 S. SANDS.

REAPING MACHINES,
HEMP CUTTING MACHINES—MOWING MACHINES—
CORN SHELLERS & HUSKERS,
And
THE CORN AND COB CRUSHER,

So highly recommended by C. N. Bement, esq. of Albany.

Orders for the above machines to be used east of the Mountains, should be directed to the subscriber at Baltimore. Orders for those to be used in the Mississippi Valley may be directed to JAS. ANDERSON & CO. Louisville, Kentucky. Farmers are requested to send their orders at an early day. se 27 OBED HUSSEY.

Besides the Crushers so well known to the public, the subscriber has just completed one adapted to grist mills, which may be seen in operation at the Savage Factory—it prepares for the mill stones 15 bushels per hour, ordinary work; what it would do by extra exertions, is not yet known. It makes no perceptible difference between old and new corn.

Since this implement has met with such general approval, the subscriber has made preparation to furnish them at various prices, from 25 to $50. Ja 24

WHITE TURKEYS.

A few pairs of those much admired White Turkeys, for sale at $5 per pair, on application at this office. Ja 24

GARDENER AND DAIRY WOMAN WANTED.

A gentleman of Talbot co. Md. wishes to employ a man who is well acquainted with vegetable gardening, and the management of fruit trees—and his wife to assist in milking and attending to the dairy. Apply at this office. ja 17

AYRSHIRE BULL.

For sale, a young Bull, out of imported stock, one year old this spring. Price $70.

Any one having heifers of this breed to dispose of, might obtain a purchaser on application to S. SANDS, Farmer office.

Ja 17

BALTIMORE CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the Society held at Govanstown, on the 20th day of October, 1843, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That such counties of Maryland as may form societies auxiliary to this, shall on the payment of fifty dollars to the Treasurer of this society, be admitted on equal terms as regards competition for premiums, if in the opinion of the Executive Committee, such an arrangement shall appear to be expedient."

The Executive Committee at a meeting held in Baltimore, Dec. 23d, 1843, having fully concurred in the above resolution, do cordially invite the farmers of the counties of the state to form auxiliary societies, and become competitors for premiums offered by this society. JOHN B. H. FULTON, Rec. Sec.

jan 10

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber is authorised by a gentleman, who, being engaged in other business, is not able to devote his whole time to farming, to sell the FARM on which he now resides situated about 8 miles from Baltimore, near one of the best turnpike roads in the county, and having the advantage of a large stream of water passing through it, with a fine mill seat with a race ready dug and dam built. This farm contains 180 acres, more or less, having full proportion of wood, and about 70 acres well set in timothy. There is a large apple orchard in good condition, a young and thrifty peach orchard of select trees, which seldom fail to bear abundantly. The buildings are substantial and convenient, being a large brick Dwelling, rough cast, with portico back and front; a large stone Switzer barn, with extensive stabling below; milk house, smoke house, a wagon shed 120 feet front, corn house and granary, carriage house, with blacksmith shop. The farm is well enclosed and divided with good fences, a large portion of which are of stone.

The present proprietor has spared no expense within the last 3 or 4 years, in improving the soil by the most approved system of cultivation; 6000 bushels of lime have been judiciously distributed, within the last two years, the beneficial effects of which may be seen by the growing crops. It is estimated that from 100 to 125 tons of hay will be cut the coming season, and a much larger quantity the succeeding summer. The wheat and rye now growing has every appearance of making as fine a crop as any in the county.

The subscriber invites those inclined to secure a productive farm, situated in one of the richest districts of Baltimore county, remarkable for its healthiness, within an hour and a half's drive of the best market in the state, to visit this property and judge for themselves. To save unnecessary application, the terms are $16,000, one-half cash, the balance on a long credit. Apply to

SAMUEL SANDS,
Jan 10 at the office of the American Farmer.

ROBERT SINCLAIR, Jr. & CO. No 60 Light st. Baltimore,
Offer for sale at reduced prices,
HARVEST TOOLS, THRESHING MACHINES, &c.

PEACH AND PEAR TREES.

The subscriber is prepared to supply Peach Trees of the choicest kinds, surpassed by none in the U. States, and of the earliest to the latest kinds, which he is enabled to sell at 15 cts. per tree for 100 trees, 12½ cents per tree, for a larger number, or 20 cts. for a less number than 100; if packed an extra charge.

He can also supply a few very choice Pear Trees at 50 cts. per tree—and in the Fall will be able to furnish any quantity required of many kinds.

Catalogues furnished on application at the Farmer office. Entire reliance may be placed on the genuineness of these trees, and of their being of the choicest kinds. ap 12 S. SANDS.

PORTABLE TUBULAR STEAM GENERATOR.

The undersigned *successors to the late firm of Bentley, Randall & Co.* are manufacturing, and have constantly on hand a full assortment of the above Boilers, which within the last few months have undergone many improvements: we can now with confidence recommend them for simplicity, strength, durability, economy in fuel, time, labor and room, to surpass any other Steam Generator now in use. They are equally well adapted to the Agriculturist for cooking food for cattle and hogs, the Dyer, Hatter and Tanner for heating liquors, to Manufacturers (both Cotton and Woollen) for heating their mills, boiling sizing, heating cylinders, &c., to Pork Butchers for heating water for scalding hogs and for *rendering lard*, to Tallow Chandlers for melting tallow by circulation of hot water (in a jacket,) to Public Houses and Institutions for cooking, washing and *soap making*, and for many other purposes for all of which they are now in *successful* operation; the economy in fuel is almost incredible; we guarantee under all circumstances a saving of *two thirds*, and in many instances *fully three fourths*—numerous certificates from the very best of authority can be produced to substantiate the fact. We had the pleasure of receiving the premium for the best Steam Apparatus at the Agricultural Fair held at Govanstown in October 1843.

Manufactory, McCausland's old Brewery, Holliday st. near Pleasant st., Baltimore, Md.

Dec. 6. tf RANDALL & CO.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY & IMPLEMENTS.

The subscriber begs leave to assure the public that he is prepared to execute orders for any of his agricultural or other machinery or implements with promptness. His machinery is so well known that it is unnecessary to describe the various kinds, but merely annex names and prices:

Portable Saw Mill with 12 ft. carriage, and 24 ft. ways and 4 ft. saw.	$300
Extra saws for shingles, with 3 pair of head blocks,	125
Post Morticing Auger,	15
Bands,	10
Horse Power of great strength,	200
Corn and Cob Crusher, wt. 600 lb.	65
Thrashing Machine, wt. 300 lb.	75
Corn Planter, wt. 100 lb.	25
Thrashing Machine, wt 600 lb.	150
Grist Mill, 2¼ ft. cologne stones,	150
Do. 3 ft. do.	175
Belts for the same,	15
Post Auger, wt. 15 lbs.	5
Tobacco Press complete, portable,	85
ortable Steam Engine, with portable Saw Mill and cutting off Saw,	3500
Large Sawing and Planing Machine with cutting off saw, or cross cutting for large establishments,	1100
If made of iron,	3000
Large Boring and Morticing machine for large establishments	150
Tenoning Machine	200
Vertical Saw	125
Small Morticing Machine, suitable for carpenters,	25

All of which articles are made in the most superior style of workmanship, of the best materials, and warranted to answer the purposes for which they are intended. It cannot be expected that the subscriber can speak of the merits of the above enumerated articles within the compass of an advertisement. Suffice it to say, that each have found numerous purchasers, and proved entirely satisfactory. The Portable Saw Mill with a 10-horse power engine, can cut, *with perfect ease*, 10,000 feet of lumber a day, and, if necessary, could greatly exceed that quantity.

GEORGE PAGE,
West Baltimore street, Baltimore, Md.

MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER IMPROVED

Made less liable to get out of order, and cheaper to repair, and at less cost than any other machine.

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Threshing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shorest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment. R. B. CHENOWETH,
corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No. 20 Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

CORN SHELLERS, STRAW CUTTERS, PLOWS, &c.

ROBT. SINCLAIR JR. & CO. No. 60 Light street, offer for sale the following Machinery, &c. all of their own manufacture, and warranted to be made inferior to none in this country, viz:

HAND CORN SHELLERS, 3 sorts, at 15a$17 each.
Horse power do. 2 do 35a$45 "
Cylindrical Straw Cutters, improved construction, at 28 to $75.
Vegetable Cutters, $20 each.
HORSE POWERS, 75 to $100 each.
Threshing Machines, 40 to $60 each.
CORN AND COB CRUSHERS, warranted to grind 25a30 bushels per hour, $65.
Common Straw Cutters, 5a$12 each.—Also

☞ SELF-SHARPENING AND COMMON PLOWS—a large and general assortment, 2a$15 each—among which are the Hill Side or Level land and Subsoil Plows, which received the highest premium at the late Fairs.

☞ PLOW AND MACHINE CASTINGS, by wholesale and retail.

☞ Garden and Farming TOOLS.

We will also supply orders for Endless Chain Horse Powers, on the plan just introduced in this city from Ohio. The plan and simplicity of these powers justify us in saying that they are a decided improvement on powers of this description.

Nov 15, 1843 R. SINCLAIR, Jr. & CO.

JAMES MURRAY'S
PREMIUM CORN AND COB CRUSHERS.

These already celebrated machines have obtained the premium by a fair trial against the other Crushers exhibited at the Fair held at Govanstown, Balt. co. Md. Oct. 18th, 19th and 20th, 1843, and the increased demand enables the patentee to give further inducements to purchasers by fitting an extra pair of grinders to each machine without extra charge. Prices $25, 30, 35, 40, 45.

ALSO, small MILLS, which received a certificate of merit, for $15.

I have also superior CUTTING BOXES, such as will bear inspection by either farmers or mechanics.

Also, Horse Powers, Mills Corn Shellers, Mill and Carry-log Screws, small Steam Engines, Turning Lathes, &c. &c.

Any kind of Machine, Model or Mill work built to order, and all mills planned and erected by the subscriber, warranted to operate well.

☞ Orders can be left with J. F Callan, Washington, D. C.; S. Sands, Farmer office; or the subscriber,

no 8 JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, Baltimore.

GROUND PLASTER.

The subscriber is now engaged in the grinding of Plaster of Paris, for agricultural purposes, and would respectfully inform Farmers and dealers that he is prepared to furnish it of the best quality at the lowest market price, deliverable in any part of the city, or on board Vessels free of expense, application to be made at the Union Plaster Mill, near the Glass House, or at the office No. 6 Bowly's Wharf, corner Wood street. P. S. CHAPPELL, or,

Jan. 3. WM. L. HOPKINS, Agent.

LIME—LIME.

The subscriber is now prepared to furnish from his depot at the City Block, Baltimore, ALUM STONE LIME of the purest description, deliverable at any point on the Chesapeake bay or its tributaries, at such prices as cannot fail to please.

He is also prepared to furnish superior building Lime at 25 cents per bushel, in hhds. or at $1 per bbl. E. J. COOPER,

aug 30 City Block, Baltimore.

TO FARMERS.

The subscriber has for sale at his Plaster and Bone Mill on Hughes street, south side of the Basin, GROUND PLASTER, GROUND BONES, OYSTER SHELL & STONE LIME, and LEACHED ASHES, all of the best quality for agricultural purposes, and at prices to suit the times.

Vessels loading at his wharf with any of the above articles, will not be subject to charges for dockage or wharfage.

fe 23 WM. TREGO, Balfimore.

POUDRETTE

Of the very best quality for sale. Three barrels for $5, or ten barrels for $15—delivered free of cartage by the New York Poudrette Company, 23 Chambers street, New York. Orders by mail, with the cash, will be promptly attended to, and with the same care as though the purchaser was present, if addressed as above to

D. K. MINOR, Agent.

The price will be increased next spring. Jan. 3.

DISSOLUTION OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.

The subscribers, Machinists, and Manufacturers of Horse Powers, Threshing Machines, Straw Cutters, &c., trading in the name of PEIRSON & GREGG, have dissolved by mutual consent, by Jacob Peirson withdrawing from the concern. The business in its various branches will hereafter be carried on by MAHLON GREGG, who is duly authorised to settle all accounts of the late firm—and hereby solicits the patronage of the customers of the late firm and all others who may call on him in the line of his business, pledging his best exertions to give satisfaction to all.

JACOB PEIRSON,
MAHLON GREGG.

Wilmington, Dec. 9, 1843.—jan 10

WILMINGTON, Dec. 26, 1843.

Mr. MAHLON GREGG, with whom I have been formerly connected in manufacturing Agricultural Machines, having purchased my interest in the concern, I take great pleasure in recommending him as a gentleman well worthy of patronage. His untiring perseverance in the prosecution of his plans, and his ingenuity and skill, well qualify him for perfecting every thing connected with the business in which he is engaged.

Jan. 10 JACOB PEIRSON.